



# UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450  
www.uspto.gov

| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR       | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|-----------------|-------------|----------------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| 09/738,239      | 12/15/2000  | Krishna Kishore Yellepeddy | AUS9-2000-0948 US1  | 2743             |

7590 03/18/2005

Law Office of Joseph R. Burwell  
P.O. Box 28022  
Austin,, TX 78755-8022

|          |
|----------|
| EXAMINER |
|----------|

SHIFERAW, ELENI A

|          |              |
|----------|--------------|
| ART UNIT | PAPER NUMBER |
|----------|--------------|

2136

DATE MAILED: 03/18/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

## Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/738,239

Applicant(s)

YELLEPEDDY ET AL.

Examiner

Eleni A Shiferaw

Art Unit

2136

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

### Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 15 December 2000.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-30 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-30 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

### Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_\_
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**Final Rejection**

**Response to the applicant amendments**

1. Applicant's arguments with respect to amended claims 1, 4, 6, 11, 14, 16, 21, and 26 and original claims 1-30 filed on December 15, 2000 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.
2. The examiner accepts the amended abstract.
3. The examiner accepts the amended specification/disclosure.
4. The examiner accepts the amended claims 4 and 14.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

5. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

6. Claims 1-30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over French et al. (French, Pub. No.: US 2001/0001877 A1) in view of Schell et al. (Schell, Patent No.: US 6,751,735 B1).

As per claims 1, 16 French discloses an apparatus for manipulating digital certificates within a distributed data processing system, (Page 9 par. 0155) the apparatus comprising:

a reception software module that receives a request from a user regarding the digital certificate, (Fig. 45 No. 130, page 3 par. 0060, page 4 par. 0066) the reception software module generating a reception event in response to the request (Fig. 45 No. 902) and propagating the reception event (Page 3 par. 0059, page 10 par. [0164-0165]);

one or more other software modules, communicatively coupled to the reception software module, that act upon a request event (Fig. 45 No.120; authentication server); and

the reception software module and the one or more other software modules executing independently and communicating with one another by propagating request events (Col. 9 lines 0156, Fig. 45 No. 130 and 120).

French fails to teach:

a reception software module propagating the reception event to one or more other software modules prior to responding to the request from the user; and

one or more other software modules propagate an event to another software module, wherein the one or more other software modules sequentially perform actions related to the digital certificate such that a given action partially fulfills the request from the user regarding the digital certificate;

However Schell discloses:

a reception software module propagating the reception event to one or more other software modules prior to responding to the request from the user (Schell Fig. 5 No. 152a-152f); and

one or more other software modules propagate an event to another software module, wherein the one or more other software modules sequentially perform actions related to the digital certificate such that a given action partially fulfills the request from the user regarding the digital certificate (Schell Col. 19 lines 30-67; certificate authority modules 152a-152f propagating certificate to each other);

Therefore it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to employ the teachings of Schell within the system of French because it would allow to generate digital signature by communicating cascally/sequentially to perform actions related to digital certificate. Independent and communicatively coupled certificate authority modules perform actions like generating private/public key pairs for digital certificate by root certifier authority 152a, certifying digital signature by CMC signature root 152b, and verifying the certificate by Module signature authority 152d and Server CA (Schell Col. 19 lines 30-67 and Fig. 5).

As per claims 6, and 21, French discloses a method for implementing requests regarding a digital certificate within a distributed data processing system, (Page 3 par. 0059) the method comprising:

receiving a request from a user in a reception software module (Page 9 par. 0152, Fig. 45)

generating a reception event (Page 2 par. 0020, page 9 par. 0152, Fig. 45 No. 130);  
determining an action regarding the digital certificate in a one or more other software modules based on the reception of an event (Page 1 par. 0019, Fig. 45 No. 130, 120);  
the reception software module being implemented in a computing system independent manner; (Fig. 45 No. 130)  
selectively implementing the action regarding the digital certificate in one or more other software modules (Page 2 par. 0020, Fig. 45 No. 130, 120); and  
the reception software module and the one or more other software modules executing independently and communicating with one another through propagating the events (Fig. 45 No. 130, 120 Page 1 par. 0019).

French fails to teach:

a reception software module propagating the reception event to one or more other software modules prior to responding to the request from the user; and  
one or more other software modules propagate an event to another software module, wherein the one or more other software modules sequentially perform actions related to the digital certificate such that a given action partially fulfills the request from the user regarding the digital certificate;

However Schell discloses:

a reception software module propagating the reception event to one or more other software modules prior to responding to the request from the user (Schell Fig. 5 No. 152a-152f); and

one or more other software modules propagate an event to another software module, wherein the one or more other software modules sequentially perform actions related to the digital certificate such that a given action partially fulfills the request from the user regarding the digital certificate (Schell Col. 19 lines 30-67; certificate authority modules 152a-152f propagating certificate to each other);

Therefore it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to employ the teachings of Schell within the system of French because it would allow to generate digital signature by communicating cascally/sequentially to perform actions related to digital certificate. Independent and communicatively coupled certificate authority modules perform actions like generating private/public key pairs for digital certificate by root certifier authority 152a, certifying digital signature by CMC signature root 152b, and verifying the certificate by Module signature authority 152d and Server CA (Schell Col. 19 lines 30-67 and Fig. 5).

As per claim 11, French teaches a computer program product on a computer usable medium, (Page 3 par. 0062, 0064 Fig. 12) the computer usable medium having computer a usable program embodied therein for implementing a request regarding a digital certificate on a distributed data processing system, (Page 9 lines 0154) the computer usable program including:

instructions for receiving the request from a user (Page 10 par. 168, Fig. 11);  
instructions for generating a reception event in response to receiving the  
request (Page 7 par. [0127-0129], Fig. 45 No. 902);  
instructions for determining an action regarding a digital certificate upon  
receiving an event (Page 1 par. 0019, Page 11 par. 0180); and  
instructions for selectively implementing the action regarding a digital  
certificate upon receiving an event (Page 4 par. 0071, page 9 par. 0154, Fig. 12; It is inherited  
that there are instructions used regarding certificate upon receiving an event because java is  
implemented and used to update and digital certificate is issued Fig. 45 No. 902); and  
the instructions for selectively implementing executing and the instructions for receiving  
operating independently and communicating with one another through propagating the events  
(Page 9 par. 0156).

French fails to teach:

a reception software module propagating the reception event to one or more other  
software modules prior to responding to the request from the user; and

one or more other software modules propagate an event to another software module,  
wherein the one or more other software modules sequentially perform actions related to the  
digital certificate such that a given action partially fulfills the request from the user regarding the  
digital certificate;

However Schell discloses:



a reception software module propagating the reception event to one or more other software modules prior to responding to the request from the user (Schell Fig. 5 No. 152a-152f); and

one or more other software modules propagate an event to another software module, wherein the one or more other software modules sequentially perform actions related to the digital certificate such that a given action partially fulfills the request from the user regarding the digital certificate (Schell Col. 19 lines 30-67; certificate authority modules 152a-152f propagating certificate to each other);

Therefore it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to employ the teachings of Schell within the system of French because it would allow to generate digital signature by communicating cascally/sequentially to perform actions related to digital certificate. Independent and communicatively coupled certificate authority modules perform actions like generating private/public key pairs for digital certificate by root certifier authority 152a, certifying digital signature by CMC signature root 152b, and verifying the certificate by Module signature authority 152d and Server CA (Schell Col. 19 lines 30-67 and Fig. 5).

As to claim 26, French teaches a computer program product on a computer usable medium, the computer usable medium having computer a usable program embodied therein for implementing a request regarding a digital certificate on a distributed data processing system, (Page 3 par. 0062, 0064 Fig. 12, Page 9 lines 0154) the computer usable program including:

a first instructions for receiving the request regarding the digital certificate and generating a reception event (Page 10 par. 168, Fig. 11, Fig. 45. Page 2 par. 0020);

one or more other instructions for implementing the request, the one or more other instructions communicatively coupled to the instructions for receiving, that selectively implement the request upon receiving an event from another instruction (Page 11 par. 0174, Fig. 45 No. 120);

first instructions for receiving implemented in a computing system independent manner (Fig. 45 No. 130; the application server); and

the first instructions for receiving and the one or more other instructions for implementing the request executing independently (Fig. 45 No. 120; authentication server).

French fails to teach:

a reception software module propagating the reception event to one or more other software modules prior to responding to the request from the user; and

one or more other software modules propagate an event to another software module, wherein the one or more other software modules sequentially perform actions related to the digital certificate such that a given action partially fulfills the request from the user regarding the digital certificate;

However Schell discloses:

a reception software module propagating the reception event to one or more other software modules prior to responding to the request from the user (Schell Fig. 5 No. 152a-152f); and

one or more other software modules propagate an event to another software module, wherein the one or more other software modules sequentially perform actions related to the digital certificate such that a given action partially fulfills the request from the user regarding the digital certificate (Schell Col. 19 lines 30-67; certificate authority modules 152a-152f propagating certificate to each other);

Therefore it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to employ the teachings of Schell within the system of French because it would allow to generate digital signature by communicating cascady/sequentially to perform actions related to digital certificate. Independent and communicatively coupled certificate authority modules perform actions like generating private/public key pairs for digital certificate by root certifier authority 152a, certifying digital signature by CMC signature root 152b, and verifying the certificate by Module signature authority 152d and Server CA (Schell Col. 19 lines 30-67 and Fig. 5).

As per claims 2, and 18, French and Schell teach all the subject matter as described above. In addition, French teaches the apparatus of wherein the reception software module is implemented in a computer system independent manner (Fig. 45 No. 130).

As per claims 3, and 19, French and Schell teach all the subject matter as described above. In addition, French teaches the apparatus wherein the reception software module is written in Java (Page 3 par. 0062, page 4 par. 0071).

As per claim 4, French and Schell teach all the subject matter as described above. In addition, French teaches the apparatus wherein the reception software module and one of the one or more other software modules execute on different computing devices (Fig. 45 No. 130, 120, 26, 32, 40, 110).

As per claim 5, French and Schell teach all the subject matter as described above. In addition, French teaches the apparatus wherein one of the one or more other software modules generates a reply event after manipulating the digital certificate, the reply event propagated to a software module that propagated the request event to the one of the one or more other software modules. (Page 9 par. 0156, Fig. 12, Fig. 45)

As per claims 7, and 23, French and Schell teach all the subject matter as described above. In addition, French teaches a method wherein the reception software module is implemented in a computer system independent manner. (Page 3 par. 0060, Fig. 45 No. 130)

As per claims 8, and 24, French and Schell teach all the subject matter as described above. In addition, French teaches the method wherein the reception software is implemented in Java (Page 3 par. 0062, page 4 par. 0071).

As per claim 9, French and Schell teach all the subject matter as described above. In addition, French teaches the method wherein the reception software and one of the one or more other software modules execute on different computing systems (Page 3 par. 0062, Page 4 par. 0066, 0071).

As per claim 10, French and Schell teach all the subject matter as described above. In addition, French teaches the method further comprising:

generating a reply event, in one of the one or more other software modules, after the step of selectively implementing (Page 2 par. 0026, Fig. 12 No. 120, Fig. 45 No. 120).

As per claims 12, and 28, French and Schell teach all the subject matter as described above. In addition, French teaches the computer program product wherein the instructions for receiving are implemented in a computer system independent manner. (Fig. 45 No. 130)

As per claims 13, and 29, French and Schell teach all the subject matter as described above. In addition, French teaches the computer program product wherein the instructions for receiving are implemented in Java (Page 3 par. 0062, page 4 par. 0071).

Art Unit: 2136

As per claim 14, French and Schell teach all the subject matter as described above. In addition, French teaches the computer program product wherein the instructions for receiving and instructions for implementing operate on different computing devices (Page 3 par. 0060, Fig. 45 No. 130, 120, Fig. 12 No. 130, 120).

As per claim 15, French and Schell teach all the subject matter as described above. In addition, French teaches the computer program product wherein the instructions for implementing generate a reply event after implementing the action regarding the digital certificate (Page 10 par. 168, Fig. 11, Page 7 par. [0127-0129], Fig. 45 No. 902);

As per claim 17, French and Schell teach all the subject matter as described above. In addition, French teaches the apparatus further comprising a second reception software module, the second reception software module responsive to requests in a second format by generating reception events; (Fig. 45 No. 120, No. 40; authentication server, second level authentication) and the second reception module operating independently from the first reception software module. (Page 8 par. 0145, Fig. 45 No. 120, No. 40)

As per claim 20, French and Schell teach all the subject matter as described above. In addition, French teaches the apparatus wherein one of the one or more software modules generates a reply event, the reply event propagated to the another software module (Page 9 par. 0156, page 11 par. 0180, Fig. 12, Fig. 45).

Art Unit: 2136

As per claim 22, French and Schell teach all the subject matter as described above. In addition, French teaches the method of claim 21 further comprising;

receiving a second request in a second format from a second reception software module, the second reception software module (Page 8 par. 0145, Page 9 par. 0153, Fig. 45 No. 120)

generating a reception event (Page 2 par. 0020, page 9 par. 0152, Fig. 45); and  
the second reception module operating independently from the first reception software module (Fig. 45 No. 120).

As per claim 25, French and Schell teach all the subject matter as described above. In addition, French teaches the method of claim 21 further comprising

generating a reply event in one of the one or more software modules in response to the step of selectively implementing; (Page 9 par. 0156, Fig. 12, Fig. 45) and  
propagating the reply event to the another software module (Page 9 par. 0156).

As per claim 27, French and Schell teach all the subject matter as described above. In addition, French teaches the computer program product of claim 26 further comprising a second instructions for receiving, the second instructions for receiving responsive to requests in a second format by generating reception events; (Page 8 par. 0145) and

the second instructions for receiving operating independently from the first instructions for receiving. (Fig. 45 No. 120, 40)

Art Unit: 2136

As per claim 30, French and Schell teach all the subject matter as described above. In addition, French teaches the computer program product of claim 26 wherein one or more other instructions for implementing the request generates a reply event, the reply event propagated to the another instruction. (Page 8 par. 0139, par. 0144)

7. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Eleni A Shiferaw whose telephone number is 703-305-0326. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri 8:00am-5:00pm.



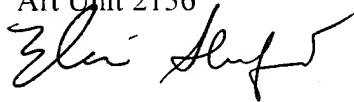
Art Unit: 2136

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ayaz R Sheikh can be reached on 703-305-9648. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Eleni Shiferaw

Art Unit 2136



AYAZ SHEIKH  
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER  
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100